

Rules of Department of Economic Development

Division 95—Committee for Professional Counselors Chapter 3—Professional Responsibility

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**Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Division 95—Committee for
Professional Counselors**

Chapter 3—Professional Responsibility

4 CSR 95-3.010 Scope of Coverage

PURPOSE: This rule describes the scope of coverage and organization of the ethical standards for counselors, authorized in section 337.520(12), RSMo.

(1) The form and content of ethical standards for counselors as that term is used in sections 337.520.1(12) and 337.525.2(15), RSMo are embodied in the definitions set forth in 4 CSR 95-3.020 and the disciplinary rules set forth in ten (10) separate canons.

(2) Each canon embodies a general concept from which disciplinary rules and ethical considerations are derived.

(3) The ethical considerations are aspirational in character and represent the objectives toward which every member of the profession should strive. They constitute a body of principles upon which the licensed professional counselor can rely for guidance in many specific situations.

(4) The disciplinary rules, unlike the ethical considerations, are mandatory in character. The failure of a licensed professional counselor to abide by any disciplinary rule set forth in this chapter shall constitute unprofessional conduct and grounds for disciplinary proceedings.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed Oct. 16, 1986, effective Jan. 30, 1987. Rescinded and readopted: Filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.020 Definitions

PURPOSE: This rule defines certain terms used in the ethical standards for counselors authorized in section 337.520(12), RSMo.

(1) Client—any receiver of professional counseling services. A corporate entity or other organization can be a client when the professional contract is to provide services of primary benefit to the organization rather than to individuals.

(2) Confidential information—information revealed by an individual(s) or otherwise obtained by a professional counselor in the counseling relationship.

(3) Dual relationship—Any relationship between the licensed professional counselor and the client other than the professional counseling role including, but not limited to, the existence of a social, sexual or business relationship between the licensed professional counselor and the client.

(4) Professional—a person who possesses the skills and theoretical foundations of counselors, has completed the specified education required in counseling, adheres to the ethical standards and works to enhance the welfare of the profession.

(5) Licensed professional counselor—as this term is used in Canon 3—Professional Relationships in the ethical standards for counselors, licensed professional counselor includes counselor-in-training.

(6) Sexual intimacies—physical or other contact by and/or between the licensed professional counselor and/or the client including, but not limited to:

(A) Sexual intercourse—any penetration or contact with the female sex organ by a finger, the male sex organ or any object;

(B) Sodomy—oral or anal copulation; or sexual intercourse between a person and an animal; or any penetration of the anal opening by any body part or object;

(C) Kissing, hugging or caressing by either the licensed professional counselor or the client;

(D) Touching by either the licensed professional counselor or the client of the other person's legs, stomach, chest, breasts, genitals or buttocks;

(E) Exhibitionism and voyeurism—exposing one's self or encouraging another to expose him/herself for the purpose of sexual gratification; or

(F) Deliberate or repeated comments, gestures or physical contacts of a sexual nature that exploit the professional relationship with the client.

(7) Counselor-in-training—an individual, functioning under the extended authority of a licensed professional counselor, psychologist or psychiatrist to provide, or while in training to provide, counseling services, who has submitted and received approval from the Missouri Committee for Professional Counselors of a registration of supervision

and subsequently has not been licensed or become ineligible.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.030 Ethical Considerations of Canon 1—Moral and Legal Standards

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors, as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 1—Moral and Legal Standards.

(1) The public should be protected from those who are not qualified to be licensed professional counselors by reason of a deficiency in education or experience or moral standards or other relevant factors, but who nevertheless seek to practice professional counseling. To assure the maintenance of high standards of the profession of counseling, licensed professional counselors should assist the Missouri Committee for Professional Counselors and the Division of Professional Registration in promulgating, enforcing and improving requirements for admission to the practice of professional counseling.

(2) Prior to recommending an applicant for licensure, a licensed professional counselor should satisfy him/herself that the applicant is of good moral character. Although a licensed professional counselor should not become a self-appointed investigator or judge of applicants for licensure, s/he should report to the Missouri Committee for Professional Counselors, the Division of Professional Registration or both all unfavorable information not privileged which s/he possesses relative to the character or other qualifications of an applicant.

(3) The integrity of the profession can be maintained only if conduct of licensed professional counselors in violation of disciplinary rules is brought to the attention of the Missouri Committee for Professional Counselors or the Division of Professional Registration.

(4) A licensed professional counselor should be thoroughly familiar with, should observe and should discuss with clients the legal limitations of the services or benefits offered to

clients so as to facilitate honest and open communication and realistic expectations.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo Supp. 1989. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990. Amended: Filed Feb. 4, 1992, effective June 25, 1992.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.040 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 1—Moral and Legal Standards

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 1—Moral and Legal Standards.

(1) A licensed professional counselor is subject to discipline if s/he has made a materially false statement, or if s/he has deliberately failed to disclose a material fact requested, in connection with his/her application for licensure as a professional counselor.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall not recommend an applicant for licensure as a professional counselor who is known by him/her to be unqualified in respect to character, education, experience or other relevant attribute.

(3) A licensed professional counselor shall not—

(A) Violate a disciplinary rule of professional conduct;

(B) Circumvent a disciplinary rule of professional conduct through the actions of another;

(C) Engage in conduct involving any act or omission of a dishonest, deceitful or fraudulent nature; or

(D) Allow the pursuit of financial gain or other personal benefit to interfere with the exercise of sound professional judgment and skills.

(4) A licensed professional counselor shall report to the committee all knowledge pertaining to known or suspected violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of professional counseling which is not confidential.

(5) A licensed professional counselor shall respond to all requests for information and all other correspondence from the committee.

(6) Any applicant for licensure as a professional counselor, including applicants seeking

committee approval of supervised counseling experience, shall provide all information requested by the committee. Failure to provide the information shall be cause for denial of licensure, registration of supervised counseling experience or both.

(7) A licensed professional counselor rendering individual services to a client (or a dependent), or services billed to a third-party payor, shall maintain professional records that include:

(A) The presenting problem(s), diagnosis, treatment plan and progress notes;

(B) The fee arrangement;

(C) The date and substance of each billed or service-count contact or service;

(D) Any test results or other evaluative results obtained and any basic test data from which they were derived;

(E) Notation and results of formal consults with other providers;

(F) A copy of all tests or other evaluative reports prepared as part of the professional relationship; and

(G) A copy of written communication with the client identifying the date and reason for termination of professional service.

(8) To meet the requirements of these disciplinary rules, but not necessarily for other legal purposes, the licensed professional counselor shall assure that all data entries in the professional records are maintained for a period of not less than five (5) years after the date of service rendered, or not less than the time required by other regulations, if that is longer.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.050 Ethical Considerations of Canon 2—Counselor-Client Relationship

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 2—Counselor-Client Relationship.

(1) Licensed professional counselors should make clear to clients the purposes, goals, techniques, rules of procedure and limitations that may affect the counseling relationship at or before the time that it is begun.

(2) A licensed professional counselor should not provide professional services to clients without being able to justify the basis upon which those services are rendered.

(3) A licensed professional counselor should be aware of his/her own mental health and emotional stability and the effects those have on his/her ability to provide appropriate counseling services to clients and, when found to be inadequate, should seek to take appropriate action and or treatment.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.060 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 2—Counselor-Client Relationship

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 2—Counselor-Client Relationship.

(1) When a licensed professional counselor has other relationships, particularly of an administrative, supervisory evaluative nature with an individual seeking counseling services, the licensed professional counselor, shall not serve as the counselor but shall refer the individual to another professional.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall not enter into a social, business or financial relationship with a current client or with a person to whom the licensed professional counselor has rendered at any time within the previous twenty-four (24) months psychotherapeutic or other professional counseling services for the treatment or amelioration of emotional distress or behavioral inadequacy.

(3) A licensed professional counselor shall not engage in sexual intimacies with a current client or with a person to whom the licensed professional counselor has rendered at any time within the previous twenty-four (24) months psychotherapeutic or other professional counseling services.

(4) A licensed professional counselor shall not hold him/herself out to the client or refer to him/herself as anyone other than the therapist.

(5) A licensed professional counselor shall not involve family members in the delivery of

professional services to a client without first securing permission from the client or the client's legal guardian, nor shall the licensed professional counselor disclose to family members that professional counseling services are being rendered to the client.

(6) A licensed professional counselor shall not usurp the client's right to make his/her own life decisions.

(7) A licensed professional counselor shall not undertake or continue a professional relationship with a client when the competency of the licensed professional counselor is, or reasonably could be, expected to be impaired due to mental, emotional, physiologic, pharmacologic or substance abuse conditions. If this condition develops after a professional relationship has been initiated, the licensed professional counselor shall terminate the relationship in an appropriate manner, shall notify the client in writing of the termination and shall assist the client in obtaining services from another professional.

(8) A licensed professional counselor shall not undertake or continue a professional relationship with a client when the objectivity or competency of the licensed professional counselor is or reasonably could be expected to be impaired because of the licensed professional counselor's present or previous familial, social, sexual, emotional, financial, supervisory, political, administrative or legal relationship with the client or a relevant person associated with or related to the client. If a dual relationship develops or is discovered after the professional relationship has been initiated, the licensed professional counselor shall terminate the professional relationship in an appropriate manner, shall notify the client in writing of this termination and shall assist the client in obtaining services from another professional.

(9) A licensed professional counselor shall terminate a professional relationship when it is reasonably clear that the client is not benefiting from the relationship or has satisfactorily completed the treatment.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.070 Ethical Considerations of Canon 3—Professional Relationships

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 3—Professional Relationships.

(1) A licensed professional counselor should act with integrity in his/her relationships with colleagues, other organizations, agencies, institutions, referral sources and other professions to facilitate the contribution of all professionals toward achieving optimum benefit for clients.

(2) A licensed professional counselor should not discuss in a disparaging way with clients the competency of other counselors or agencies, the judgments made, the methods used or the quality of treatment plans.

(3) A licensed professional counselor who employs or supervises other individuals should facilitate the professional development of those individuals. The licensed professional counselor should provide appropriate working conditions, timely evaluations, constructive consultation and experience opportunities.

(4) A licensed professional counselor should ensure a fair mutual understanding of the treatment plan by all professionals cooperating in the counseling of clients and that any treatment plan is developed with mutual understanding.

(5) When transferring clients to other professionals, a licensed professional counselor should not commit the receiving professional to any prescribed courses of action in relation to clients.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.080 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 3—Professional Relationships

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 3—Professional Relationships.

(1) Except in the case of file review or the rendering of a second opinion, a licensed professional counselor shall not engage in a professional relationship with a client who is receiving services from another licensed professional unless the licensed professional counselor is working with and is responsible for the acts of that professional.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall not exploit his/her professional relationships with supervisors, colleagues, students or employees sexually or otherwise.

(3) A licensed professional counselor shall not engage in sexual intimacies with a supervisee.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.090 Ethical Considerations of Canon 4—Group Relationships

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 4—Group Relationships.

(1) A licensed professional counselor should fully inform group members, in advance and preferably in writing, of the goals in the group, qualifications of the leader and procedures to be employed.

(2) A licensed professional counselor should conduct a pregroup interview with each prospective member for purposes of screening, orientation and, insofar as possible, should select group members whose needs and goals are compatible with the established goals of the group, who will not impede the group process and whose well being will not be jeopardized by the group experience.

(3) A licensed professional counselor should protect members by clearly defining what confidentiality means, why it is important and the difficulties involved in enforcement.

(4) A licensed professional counselor should explain, as realistically as possible, exactly what services can and cannot be provided within the particular group structure offered.



(5) A licensed professional counselor should provide prospective members with specific information about any specialized or experiential activities in which they may be expected to participate.

(6) A licensed professional counselor should stress the personal risks involved in any group, especially regarding potential life changes, and help group members explore their readiness to face these risks.

(7) A licensed professional counselor should inform members that participation is voluntary and that they may exit from the group at any time.

(8) A licensed professional counselor should inform members about recording of sessions and how tapes will be used.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.100 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 4—Group Relationships

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 4—Group Relationships.

(1) A licensed professional counselor shall protect the members’ rights against physical threats, intimidations, coercion and undue peer pressure as is reasonably possible.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall refrain from imposing his/her own agendas, needs and values on group members.

(3) A licensed professional counselor shall insure to the extent that it is reasonably possible that each member has the opportunity to utilize group resources and interact within the group by minimizing barriers such as rambling and monopolizing time.

(4) A licensed professional counselor shall make every reasonable effort to treat each member individually and equally.

(5) A licensed professional counselor shall help promote independence of members from the group in the most efficient period of time.

(6) A licensed professional counselor shall not attempt any technique unless thoroughly trained in its use or under the supervision of an expert familiar with the intervention.

(7) A licensed professional counselor shall not condone the use of alcohol directly prior to or during group sessions.

(8) A licensed professional counselor shall make every effort to assist members in developing their personal goals.

(9) A licensed professional counselor shall provide between-session consultation to group members and follow-up after termination of the group, as needed or requested.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.110 Ethical Considerations of Canon 5—Public Statements/Fees

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 5—Public Statements/Fees.

(1) A licensed professional counselor should consider carefully the value of his/her services and the ability of clients to meet the financial burden in establishing reasonable fees for professional services.

(2) A licensed professional counselor should not accept for professional services a fee or any form of remuneration from clients who are entitled to their services through an institution or agency or other benefits structure unless clients have been fully informed of the availability of services from these other sources.

(3) In describing professional counseling services to the general public, a licensed professional counselor should be guided by the primary obligation to aid the public in developing informed judgments, opinions and choices and should avoid presentation of the material through sensationalism, exaggeration or superficiality.

(4) A licensed professional counselor should not accept for professional service any form of remuneration including the bartering ser-

vices which has the effect of exploiting the professional relationship or creating a dual relationship.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.120 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 5—Public Statements/Fees

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520 (12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 5—Public Statements/Fees.

(1) A licensed professional counselor shall not give or receive a commission or rebate or any other form of remuneration for referral of clients for professional services.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall not engage in fraud or misrepresentation.

(3) A licensed professional counselor shall clearly state the counselor’s licensure status by the use of a title such as licensed counselor or licensed professional counselor or a statement such as licensed by the Missouri Committee for Professional Counselors in any advertising, public directory or solicitation, including telephone directory listings, regardless of whether the presentment is made under the licensee’s name, a fictitious business or group name or a corporate name.

(4) A licensed professional counselor shall not use relationships with clients to promote, for personal gain or the profit of an agency, commercial enterprises of any kind.

(5) A licensed professional counselor shall display his/her license at all times in a conspicuous location readily accessible to all clients at the licensee’s place of business.

(6) Except with the consent of the client after full disclosure, a licensed professional counselor shall not accept compensation for the professional counseling services from one other than his/her client.

(7) A licensed professional counselor shall ensure that clients are aware of fees and billing arrangements before rendering services.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.130 Ethical Considerations of Canon 6—Confidentiality

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 6—Confidentiality.

(1) A licensed professional counselor should respect the confidentiality of information obtained from clients in the course of his/her work.

(2) A licensed professional counselor should take reasonable personal action, inform responsible authorities or inform those persons at risk when the conditions or actions of clients indicate that there is clear and imminent danger to clients or others. Consultation with other professionals may be used where appropriate. The assumption of responsibility for clients should be taken only after careful deliberation and clients should be involved in the resumption of responsibility as quickly as possible.

(3) A licensed professional counselor should safeguard the maintenance, storage and disposal of the records of clients so that unauthorized persons shall not have access to these records.

(4) A licensed professional counselor should thoroughly brief all individuals who have access to a client's records about the confidentiality standards to be observed.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.140 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 6—Confidentiality

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 6—Confidentiality.

(1) A licensed professional counselor shall inform clients at the onset of the counseling relationship of the limits of confidentiality.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall keep confidential his/her counseling relationships with clients with the following exceptions:

(A) When the client constitutes a danger to him/herself or to others;

(B) When the licensed professional counselor is under court order to disclose information; or

(C) As required by law.

(3) A licensed professional counselor shall not forward to another person, agency or potential employer any confidential information without the written consent of clients or their legal guardians.

(4) A licensed professional counselor shall obtain written consent from his/her clients or the clients' legal guardians prior to taping or recording counseling sessions. Even with guardian's written consent, licensed professional counselors shall not record sessions against the expressed wishes of clients.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.150 Ethical Considerations of Canon 7—Assessment

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 7—Assessment.

(1) A licensed professional counselor should promote the welfare of clients in the selection, utilization and interpretation of assessment measures.

(2) A licensed professional counselor should consider carefully the specific validity, reliability and appropriateness of tests when selecting them for use in a given situation or with particular clients. Licensed professional counselors should proceed with caution when attempting to evaluate and interpret the performance of people with disabilities, minority group members or other persons who are not represented in the standardized norm groups. Licensed professional counselors

should recognize the effects of socioeconomic, ethnic, disability and cultural factors on test scores.

(3) A licensed professional counselor should administer tests under the same conditions that are established in their standardization. When tests are not administered under standard conditions, as may be necessary to accommodate modifications for clients with disabilities or when unusual behavior or irregularities occur during the testing session, those conditions will be noted and taken into account at the time of interpretation.

(4) A licensed professional counselor should ensure that instrument limitations are not exceeded and that periodic reassessments are made to prevent stereotyping of clients.

(5) A licensed professional counselor should ensure that a specific interpretation accompanies any release of individual data. The welfare and explicit prior permission of clients will be the criteria for determining the recipients of the test results. The interpretation of assessment data will be related to the particular goals of evaluation.

(6) A licensed professional counselor should attempt to ensure, when utilizing computerized assessment services, that those services are based on appropriate research to establish the validity of the computer programs and procedures used in arriving at interpretations. Public offering of an automated test interpretation service will be considered as a professional-to-professional consultation. In this instance, the formal responsibility of the consultant is to the consultee, but the ultimate and overriding responsibility is to clients.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.160 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 7—Assessment

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12) RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 7—Assessment.

Editor's Note: The secretary of state has determined that the publication of this rule in its entirety would be unduly cumbersome or

expensive. The entire text of the material referenced has been filed with the secretary of state. This material may be found at the Office of the Secretary of State or at the headquarters of the agency and is available to any interested person at a cost established by state law.

(1) A licensed professional counselor shall not administer, score or interpret any test for which s/he has not been adequately educated and trained.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall not administer any tests without first advising the client or legal guardian as to the purpose of the tests and the explicit use of the results.

(3) A licensed professional counselor shall have training in the utilization of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (Third Edition-Revised), if it is used in the assessment process.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.170 Ethical Considerations of Canon 8—Research Activities

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 8—Research Activities.

(1) A licensed professional counselor should ensure that data for research meets rigid standards of validity, honesty and protection of confidentiality.

(2) A licensed professional counselor should ensure that the welfare of clients is in no way compromised in any experimentation.

(3) A licensed professional counselor should be aware of and responsive to all pertinent guidelines on research with human subjects. When planning any research activity dealing with human subjects, licensed professional counselors should ensure that research problems, design and execution are in full compliance with these guidelines. These guidelines include those published by the federal government and professional associations.

(4) In presenting case studies in classes, professional meetings or publications, licensed professional counselors should confine the content to that which can be disguised to ensure full protection of the identity of clients.

(5) A licensed professional counselor should recognize that honesty and openness are essential characteristics of the relationship between licensed professional counselors and research participants. When methodological requirements of a study necessitate concealment or deception, licensed professional counselors will ensure that participants understand the reasons for this action.

(6) A licensed professional counselor should publish research findings to enhance the profession.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.180 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 8—Research Activities

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12) RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 8—Research Activities.

(1) In considering any research, a licensed professional counselor shall not violate any laws of this state or the federal government.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall not require a client to participate in research projects against his/her will.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.190 Ethical Considerations of Canon 9—Competence

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 9—Competence.

(1) A licensed professional counselor should continuously strive through reading, attending professional meetings and taking courses of instruction to keep abreast of new developments, concepts and practices that are essential to providing the highest quality of services to his/her clients.

(2) A licensed professional counselor who is an educator should perform his/her duties based on careful preparation so that the instruction is accurate, up-to-date and scholarly.

(3) A licensed professional counselor who is an educator should ensure that statements in catalogs and course outlines are accurate, particularly in terms of subject matter covered, bases for grading and nature of classroom experiences.

(4) A licensed professional counselor who is an educator should maintain high standards of knowledge and skill by presenting counseling information fully and accurately, and by giving appropriate recognition to alternative viewpoints.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.200 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 9—Competence

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 9—Competence.

(1) A licensed professional counselor shall not engage in the practice of professional counseling beyond the scope of his/her competence, as is demonstrated by his/her education, training or experience.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall not undertake any activity in which his/her personal problems are likely to lead to inadequate performance. If the licensed professional counselor becomes or is made aware of personal problems, s/he will seek competent professional assistance to determine whether s/he should suspend, terminate or limit the scope of his/her professional activities.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.210 Ethical Considerations of Canon 10—License Credentials

PURPOSE: This rule is a guide to assist applicants and licensees regulated by sections 337.500–337.540, RSMo in understanding the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 10—License Credentials.

(1) The protection of the public against unqualified and unprofessional services is premised on qualified counselors as demonstrated by the licensure credential. A licensed professional counselor should encourage all qualified counselors to seek licensure whether or not they are exempt.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*

4 CSR 95-3.220 Disciplinary Rules of Canon 10—License Credentials

PURPOSE: Pursuant to section 337.520(12), RSMo, this rule defines the form and content of ethical standards for counselors as they pertain to the disciplinary rules of Canon 10—License Credentials.

(1) A licensed professional counselor shall use only those educational credentials in association with his/her licensure and practice as a professional counselor that have been earned at an acceptable educational institution as defined by rule and that are counseling in nature. Those credentials include the title doctor as well as academic designations following one's name including, but not limited to, M.Ed., Ph.D., M.A., M.S., Ed.S. and Ed.D.

(2) A licensed professional counselor shall use only indicators of current counseling-related credentials such as Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) and Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) or such indicators as awarded by independent credentialing agencies such as the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists and the National Board for

Certified Counselors, Inc. (NCC) in association with his/her licensure and practice as a professional counselor.

AUTHORITY: section 337.520, RSMo 1986. Original rule filed July 3, 1990, effective Dec. 31, 1990.*

**Original authority: 337.520, RSMo 1985, amended 1989, 1993, 1995.*